

(ii) Biological degradation of waste.

Field trials shall be conducted with both types of systems for gaining experience and taking further decisions. Simultaneously, under the technology mission on railway safety, RDSO and Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Kanpur are also developing indigenous design for environment friendly Zero discharge toilets.

Thefts in trains

3335. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government are aware of the increasing incidents of theft in trains;
- (b) whether it is fact that many cases of theft reported in the Thiruvananthapuram bound Kerala Express;
- (c) if so, the details of the such cases reported since January, 2006;
- (d) whether compensation has been provided to the victims;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the details of the measures taken for the safety of the passengers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) No, Sir. There is decrease in the incidents of theft of passengers' belongings during the year 2006 as compared to the previous years. During the year 2006, in all 5806 cases of theft of passengers belongings were reported in trains over Indian Railways as against 6103 cases reported during the year 2005.

(b) and (c) In Thiruvananthapuram bound Kerala Express, 6 cases of theft of passengers belongings were reported during the year 2006 and 5 cases were reported during the year 2007 (upto March).

(d) and (e) There is no provision in the rules for compensation for loss of theft of goods unless a railway servant has booked the luggage and given a receipt thereof to the passenger or it is proved otherwise that the loss was due to negligence or misconduct on the part of the railways.

(f) It is pertinent to mention that maintenance of law and order is a State subject and powers to investigate in Indian Penal Code (IPC) crimes are vested with Police. Thus, the Ministry of Railways has to depend largely on them for control of crime over Railways.

However, to provide better security to the travelling passengers in trains and passenger areas, Railways is supplementing the efforts of the State Governments in controlling crime on the Railways by deploying Railway Protection Force staff to escort trains and on access control duties at Railway Stations with effect from 1st July, 2004. The Railway Protection Force staff is being deployed to escort about 1400 trains on an average in addition to about 2200 trains being escorted on an average by Government Railway Police.

During the period from July, 2004 to December, 2006, the Railway Protection Force staff have arrested 209 criminals indulging in drugging, 442 criminals in luggage lifting, 150 criminals in carrying illegal arms, 153 criminals in chain snatching and 142 criminals in pick-pocketing and handed over to the concerned Railway Police for taking further legal action.

Sensitive railway stations

**3336. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:
SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:**

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railway Protection Force had identified 170 railway stations across the country as sensitive and had prepared detailed proposals for each of the 16 zonal railways;

(b) whether all Rajdhani and Shatabdi trains would be equipped with wireless internet services free of cost to passengers in the high-end trains and also provide full protection and safety measures;

(c) to what extent these steps have improved the security of the railways; and

(d) if so, to what extent it has been helpful and successful?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI R. VELU):** (a) Yes, Sir. In fact, 185 Railway Stations (and not just